

Erikson at a glance

Mission

Erikson Institute is an independent institution of higher education that prepares child development professionals for leadership. Through its academic programs, applied research, and community initiatives, Erikson advances the ability of practitioners, researchers, and decision makers to improve life for children and their families. The Institute is a catalyst for discovery and change, continually bringing the newest scientific knowledge and theories of children's development and learning into its classrooms and out to the community so that professionals serving children and families are informed, inspired, and responsive.

History

In 1966, four prominent child advocates—child psychologist Maria Piers; businessman and philanthropist Irving B. Harris; educator and activist Barbara Taylor Bowman; and social worker Lorraine Wallach—launched a program to provide early childhood teachers and caregivers with a comprehensive education in child development and a clear understanding of the role of family and culture in a child's life. They knew that quality early education and care could help children succeed, especially those children at risk for academic failure and social harm. And they knew that the better educated the adult, the better the outcomes for the child. More than 40 years later, Erikson Institute, named after the German-born psychoanalyst Erik Erikson (1902–94), remains both a pioneer and leader in the preparation of early childhood professionals.

Academic programs

Thirty-six full- and part-time faculty teach the approximately 230 masters, 15 doctoral, and 55 certificate students enrolled in Erikson's campus-based academic programs:

- M.S. in child development
- Online M.S. in early childhood education
- M.S. in early childhood education leading to initial Type 04 certification
- M.S. in child development/M.S.W. in clinical social work*
- Ph.D. in child development*
- Irving B. Harris Infant Specialist Certificate Program
- Irving B. Harris Infant Mental Health Program
- Bilingual/ESL Certificate Program

**In collaboration with Loyola University Chicago.*

Professional development programs

An additional 2,000 working professionals participate each year in Erikson's year-round courses, workshops, and seminars offered throughout the greater metropolitan Chicago area. In addition to the courses featured in its triennial catalog, Erikson offers customized on-site staff development. Teaching and consulting are research based and focus on

- Early intervention
- Teaching and learning
- Infancy (online courses)

Center for Children and Families

The Center offers family-centered assessment and treatment for developmental, emotional, behavioral, and learning issues. Staffed by an interdisciplinary team of therapists, psychologists, developmental and behavioral pediatricians, and social workers, it is a unique resource for infants and young children.

The logo for Erikson Institute, featuring the word "erikson" in a bold, lowercase, sans-serif font. The letters "e", "i", and "k" are in a dark blue color, while the remaining letters "r", "i", "k", "s", "o", "n" are in black. The "i" has a small blue dot above it.

graduate school in child development

Community initiatives

Erikson faculty and research associates are committed to serving the Chicago community, including the Chicago Public Schools (CPS) with initiatives such as

- City Colleges of Chicago Early Childhood Faculty Development
- Early Mathematics Education Project
- Fussy Baby Network
- Illinois Department of Children and Family Services Early Childhood Unit
- Project Connect, for families separated by court decree
- New Schools Project
- Ounce Scale, developmental assessment of toddlers

Research initiatives

Erikson's full-time faculty and research associates participate in the Institute's programs of applied research, among them the following:

- Apprenticeships
- Assessment in Early Childhood Classrooms
- Developing Early Childhood Teachers' Competence in Early Literacy Instruction with Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Children
- Early Head Start: National Research Study and Local Program Evaluation
- Early Reading First
- Educating Early Childhood Teachers About Diversity
- Illinois Early Intervention System Social-Emotional Component Evaluation
- Infant Crying and Developmental Outcomes
- Promoting Parent Self-Efficacy
- Predicting Infant Health Care Use
- Vocabulary Acquisition and Story Comprehension Among ESL Preschoolers

Herr Research Center for Children and Social Policy

Currently, the center's major areas of focus are early childhood education and care and social-emotional well-being.

www.erikson.edu

Accreditation

Erikson is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and a member of the North Central Association.

All funds budget

\$20 million

Alumni

Erikson's more than 1,400 alumni serve children and families in every capacity. Among our graduates are Louise Beem, cofounder, DuPage Children's Museum and founder, early childhood care and education program at College of DuPage; Carol Brunson Day, president, National Black Child Development Institute; Leon Denton, manager of Head Start, Salvation Army Child Care Program; Chipo Dyanda, dean of the faculty of education, University of Zimbabwe; Toby Herr, founder, Project Match; Pat Manning, director of Child Life and Family Education, University of Chicago Comer Children's Hospital; and Molly McGrath, director of Baltimore City Department of Social Services. Roughly 70 percent of our alumni work in the Midwest; 5 percent work outside the U.S.

Tuition & Fees, 2009–10*

Application Fee	\$50 (nonrefundable)
Master's Matriculation Fee	\$150 (nonrefundable)
Certificate Matriculation Fee	\$100 (nonrefundable)
Tuition	\$810 per credit
Student Services Fee	\$420 for academic year

**Tuition and fees cited apply to Erikson Institute only. Loyola tuition and fees for dual degree and Ph.D. students are billed separately by Loyola University Chicago. Please visit www.luc.edu for current rates.*

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